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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,381	05/11/2001	Min-Chih Hsuan	7124-US-PA	6442

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EXAMINER

KIM, AHSHIK

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 05/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/853,381

Applicant(s)

HSUAN ET AL.

Examiner

Ahshik Kim

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/19/03 (Amendment).
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 10-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 10-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Amendments

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the amendment filed on March 19, 2003. In the
5 amendment, claims 6-9 were canceled, claims 1 and 11 were amended, and claims 13 and
14 were newly added. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 10-14 remain for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that
10 form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public
use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United
States.

- 15 2. Claims 1, 3-5, 10-12, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being
anticipated by Castleman (US 5,570,002).

Re claims 1 and 11, Castleman teaches a universal power supply system
comprising various devices, which, can connect to the powers source 110 (see abstract;
20 col. 4, lines 31+; figure 2). Each device(s) include a device identification unit (col. 3,
lines 31), a power input device (col. 4, lines 40+); a universal power source 10/110 which
supply power to the connected device (col. 7, lines 31+). The power supply system 120
further includes a microprocessor 124 and memory 125 to accept identification
information for each device and provide correct power supply (col. 11, lines 28+).

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Re claims 4, 5, 10, and 14, as shown in figure 1, the interface device 30 contains information terminal 34 and power terminals 36 which mate with power supply system 20 (col. 10, lines 17+).

Re claim 3, the voltage regulator 22/122 takes power from the power source, and produces stabilized voltages (col. 9, lines 43+) that are suitable for re-charging batteries of the connected devices (col. 2, lines 11+).

Re claim 12, the microprocessor of the system provides status of each outlets/ports and control power supply to the outlets (col. 16, lines 51+).

10

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

15

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

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3. Claims 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Castleman (US 5,570,002) in view of Batson et al. (US 6,400,043). The teachings of Castleman have been discussed above.

Castleman fails to specifically teach or fairly suggest that the power supply
5 includes rechargeable battery and a charger.

Batson teaches uninterruptible power supply 10 comprising rechargeable battery 40, which can power electronics device 120 (col. 3, lines 11+; col. 6, lines 4+).

In view of Batson's teaching, it would have been obvious to an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ well-known rechargeable battery
10 and charging system to the teachings of Castleman in order to provide uninterruptible power supply to the connected devices. Power source itself can be interrupted, which can affect operation of critical devices/processes. Moreover, sudden stoppage and resumption of power can physically damage the connected devices and valuable information therein. Accordingly, incorporating a battery-powered source disclosed by
15 Boston in addition to conventional power source is well within the ordinary skill in the art to supply uninterrupted power to the users systems.

Response to Arguments

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4. Applicant's amendment and arguments filed on March 19, 2003 have been carefully studied and considered, but they are not persuasive.

Applicant amended claims 1 and 11, and therefore further clarified claimed invention. However, it is the Examiner's view that the Castleman patent still reads on the
25 newly amended elements of claims 1 and 11.

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Amended claim 1 further limits "a power input interface, used to transmit a needed power to the device circuit". As shown in figure 1 (col. 10, lines 45+), the supplied device 40 is connected to the interface 128 via two power carrying terminals 39. Terminals 39, along with power input leads 41 of the device 40 supplies necessary power

5 to the device 40.

With respect to a standard interface unit recited in amended claim 10, the regulator 128 of Castleman can be considered as a standard interface between the device and UPS unit. As shown in figure 2 (col. 11, lines 28+), the interface 128 concurrently supplies power to many devices connected to its ports a-z.

10 The amended claims and Applicant's remarks pertaining to the amended claims have carefully reviewed, but they are still taught by the Castleman reference, and therefore, the Examiner has made this Office Action final.

Conclusion

15 **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

20 mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

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advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Ahshik Kim* whose telephone number is (703)305-5203 .

5 The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 6:00AM to 3:00PM Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee, can be reached on (703) 305-3503. The fax number directly to the Examiner is (703) 746-4782. The fax phone number for this Group is (703)308-7722, (703)308-7724, or (703)308-7382.

10 Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [ahshik.kim@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG

20 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

25

Ahshik Kim
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2876
30 May 23, 2003



KARL D. FRECH
PRIMARY EXAMINER